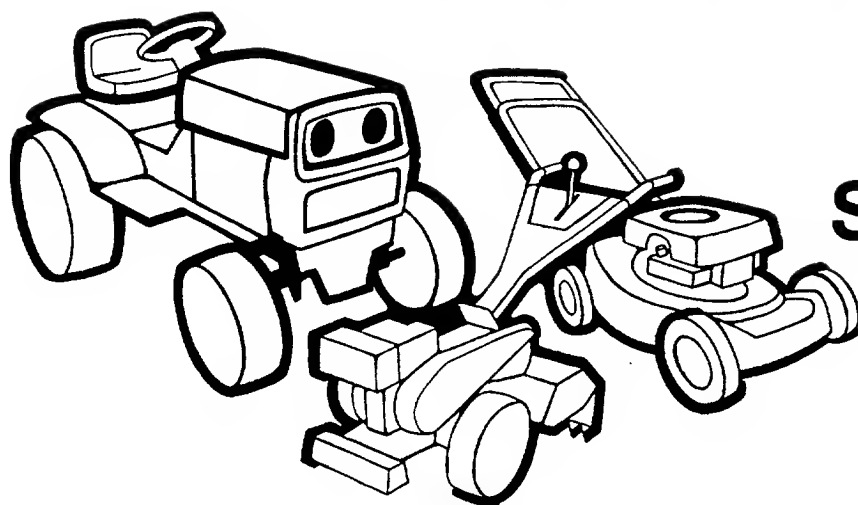


OWNERS MANUAL



**26"
Hi-Wheel
Self-Propelled
Rotary
Mower**

**ASSEMBLY
OPERATION
MAINTENANCE
PARTS LIST**

**Model Numbers
124-573-000
124-574-000**

**Important:
Read Safety Rules and
Instructions Carefully**

Thank you for purchasing an
American built product.

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LIMITED WARRANTY

For one year from the date of original retail purchase, MTD PRODUCTS INC will either repair or replace, at its option, free of charge, F.O.B. factory or authorized service firm, any part or parts found to be defective in material or workmanship. Transportation charges for the movement of any power equipment unit or attachment are the responsibility of the purchaser. Transportation charges for any parts submitted for replacement under this warranty must be paid by the purchaser unless such return is requested by MTD PRODUCTS INC.

This warranty will not apply to any part which has become inoperative due to misuse, excessive use, accident, neglect, improper maintenance, alterations, or unless the unit has been operated and maintained in accordance with the instructions furnished. This warranty does not apply to the engine, motor, battery, battery charger or component parts thereof. Please refer to the applicable manufacturer's warranty on these items.

This warranty will not apply where the unit has been used commercially.

Warranty service is available through your local authorized service dealer or distributor. If you do not know the dealer or distributor in your area, please write to the Customer Service Department of MTD.

The return of a complete unit will not be accepted by the factory unless prior written permission has been extended by MTD.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state.



WARNING

This unit is equipped with an internal combustion engine and should not be used on or near any unimproved forest-covered, brush-covered or grass-covered land unless the engine's exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrester meeting applicable local or state laws (if any). If a spark arrester is used, it should be maintained in effective working order by the operator.

In the State of California the above is required by law (Section 4442 of the California Public Resources Code). Other states may have similar laws. Federal laws apply on federal lands. A spark arrester muffler is available at your nearest engine authorized service center.



WARNING

To reduce the potential for any injury, comply with the following safety instructions. Failure to comply with the instructions may result in personal injury.

SAFE OPERATION PRACTICES FOR WALK-BEHIND MOWERS

TRAINING

1. Read this owner's manual carefully in its entirety before attempting to assemble or operate this machine. Be completely familiar with the controls and the proper use of this machine before operating it. Keep this manual in a safe place for future and regular reference and for ordering replacement parts.
2. Your rotary mower is a precision piece of power equipment, not a plaything. Therefore, exercise extreme caution at all times.
3. Never allow children to operate a power mower. Only persons well acquainted with these rules of safe operation should be allowed to use your mower.
4. Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children and pets. Stop engine when they are in the vicinity of your mower. Although the area of operation should be completely cleared of foreign objects, an object may have been overlooked and could be accidentally thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.

PREPARATION

1. Thoroughly inspect the area where the equipment is to be used. Remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects which could be picked up and thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator or any others allowed in the area.
2. Do not operate equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear.
3. Do not wear loose fitting clothing that could get caught on the mower.
4. Check the fuel before starting the engine. Gasoline is an extremely flammable fuel. Do not fill the gasoline tank indoors, while the engine is running, or while the engine is still hot. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting the engine as it may cause a fire or explosion.
5. Disengage the self-propelled mechanism or drive clutch on units so equipped before starting the engine.
6. The blade control handle is a safety device. Never attempt to bypass its operation. Doing so makes the safety device inoperative and may result in personal injury through contact with the rotating blade. The blade control handle must operate easily in both directions.
7. Never attempt to make a wheel or cutting height adjustment while the engine is running.
8. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
9. Never operate the equipment in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury. Keep a firm hold on the handle and walk, never run.

OPERATION

1. Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine. Excessive engine speeds are dangerous.
2. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of the discharge opening at all times as the rotating blade can cause injury.
3. Stop the blade when crossing gravel drives, walks or roads.
4. After striking a foreign object, stop the engine, remove the wire from the spark plug, and thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage. Repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower.
5. If the equipment should start to vibrate abnormally, stop the engine and check immediately for the cause. Vibration is generally a warning of trouble.
6. Shut the engine off and wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing the grass catcher or unclogging the chute. The cutting blade continues to rotate for a few seconds after the engine is shut off. Never place any part of the body in the blade area until you are sure the blade has stopped rotating.
7. Before cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain the blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect the spark plug wire, and keep the wire away from the spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
8. Do not run the engine indoors.
9. Mow across the face of slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise extreme caution when changing direction on slopes. Do not mow excessively steep slopes. Always be sure of your footing. A slip and fall can cause serious personal injury.
10. Always disconnect electric mowers (line operated) before cleaning, repairing or adjusting.
11. Never operate mower without proper guards, plates or other safety protective devices in place.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Check the blade and engine mounting bolts at frequent intervals for proper tightness.
2. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the equipment is in safe working condition.
3. Never store the equipment with gasoline in the tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
4. To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
5. Check the grass catcher bag frequently for wear or deterioration. For safety protection, replace only with new bag meeting original equipment specifications.

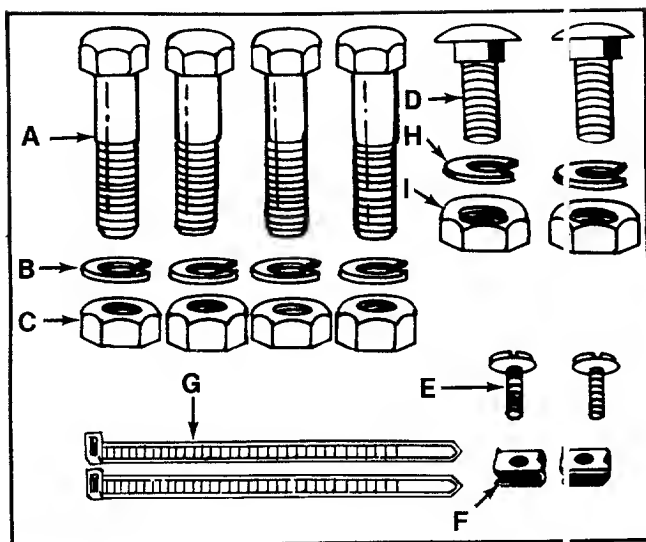


FIGURE 1.

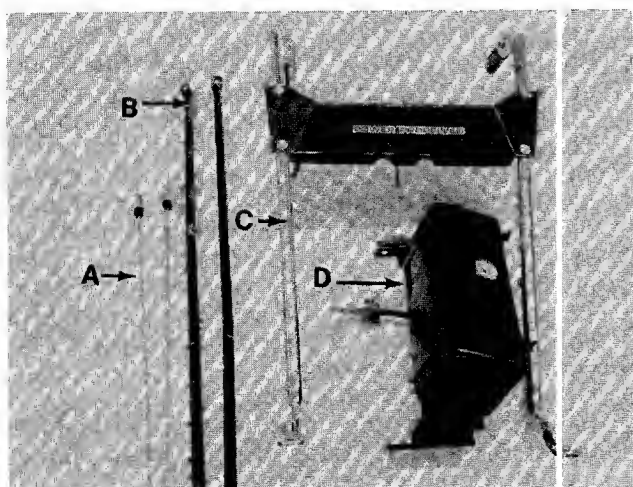


FIGURE 2.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS



NOTE

This unit is shipped WITHOUT GASOLINE or OIL. After assembly, see separate engine manual for proper fuel and engine oil recommendations.

← Contents of Hardware Pack: (See Figure 1)

- A (4) Hex Bolts 5/16-24 x 1.25" Long (574)
- B (4) Lock Washers 5/16" I.D. (574)
- C (4) Hex Nuts 5/16-24 Thread (574)
- D (2) Carriage Bolts 5/16-18 x .62" Long
- E (2) Truss Machine Screws
- F (2) Speed Nuts
- G (2) Cable Ties
- H (2) Lock Washers 5/16" I.D.
- I (2) Hex Nuts 5/16-18 Thread

← Loose Parts in Carton: (See Figure 2)

- A (2) Clutch Rods
- B (2) Strut Bars
- C (1) Handle Assembly
- D (1) Fuel Tank Assembly (574 Only)

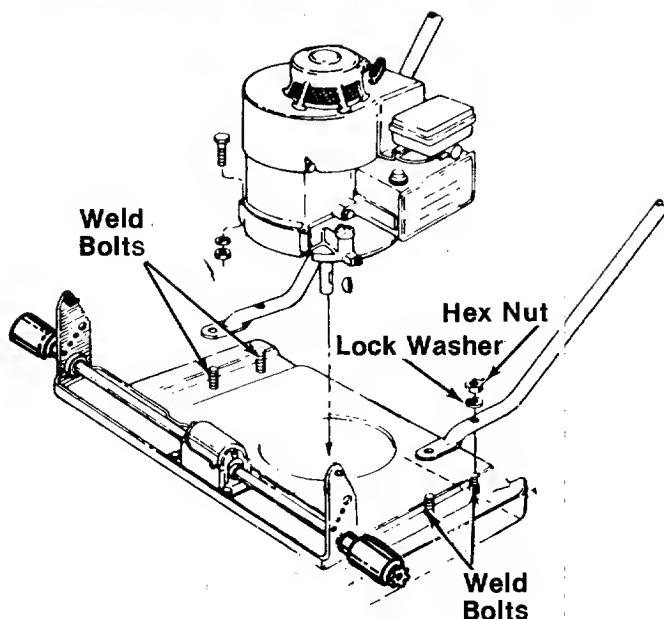


FIGURE 3.

← HANDLE ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION

1. Remove the nuts and lock washers on the four weld bolts on the rear frame of the mower. See figure 3.
2. Place the handle assembly over the weld bolts as shown in figure 3.
3. Place a lock washer and nut on each weld bolt. Tighten only finger tight.

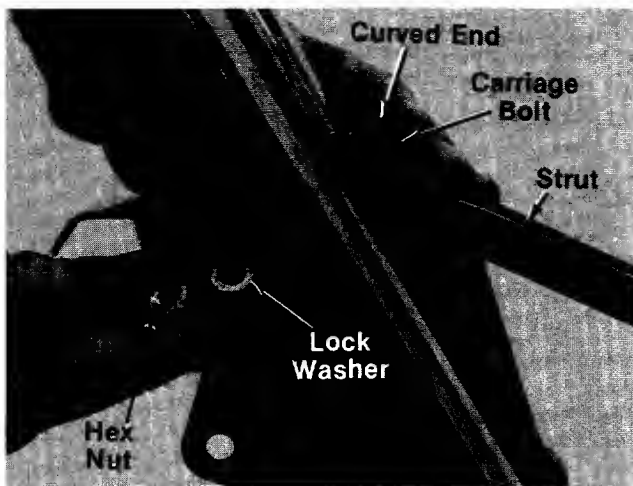


FIGURE 4.

INSTALLATION OF STRUT BARS

1. Remove the carriage bolt, lock washer and hex nut from the upper right hand side of the handle panel. Place the carriage bolt through the curved end of one strut bar. Secure to handle panel, handle and bracket with lock washer and nut as shown in figure 4. Tighten finger tight only. Attach strut bar to the left side of the handle panel in the same manner.



Reference to left or right side of machine is from operator's position at the handle facing forward.

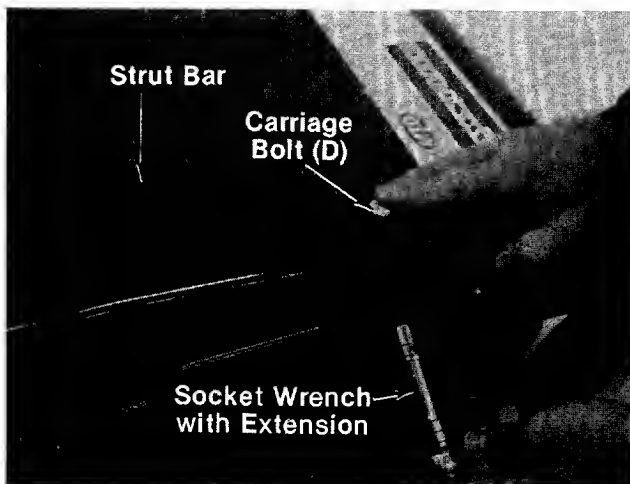


FIGURE 5.

2. Attach the strut bars to the frame with carriage bolts (D), lock washers (H) and hex nuts (I). Lock washers and hex nuts go beneath the deck. A socket wrench with an extension is required. See figure 5.
3. Leave upper carriage bolt and nut on the left handle loose until blade clutch control cable is attached. Tighten securely all other nuts and bolts used in handle and strut bar installation.

BLADE CLUTCH CONTROL CABLE INSTALLATION

1. The blade clutch control cable is attached to the unit. Remove the hex nut from the threaded end of the clutch control cable casing, and slide the nut up the cable.
2. Slip the cable through the slot in the cable bracket. Slide the threaded end of the cable casing up through the bracket. Rethread the hex nut onto the end of the cable casing a few turns. See figure 6.
3. Place the clutch grip on the left handle in the raised position. Hold the "Z" end of the cable against the clutch grip as shown in figure 7. Adjust the lower hex nut (underneath the cable bracket) so that the middle of the "Z" fitting is 1/8" above the bottom of the hole on the clutch grip as shown in figure 7.
4. Tighten the upper hex nut against the cable bracket.
5. Remove the self-tapping screw from the cable bracket. Remove the hex nut and lock washer from the carriage bolt, then remove the cable bracket. See figure 6.

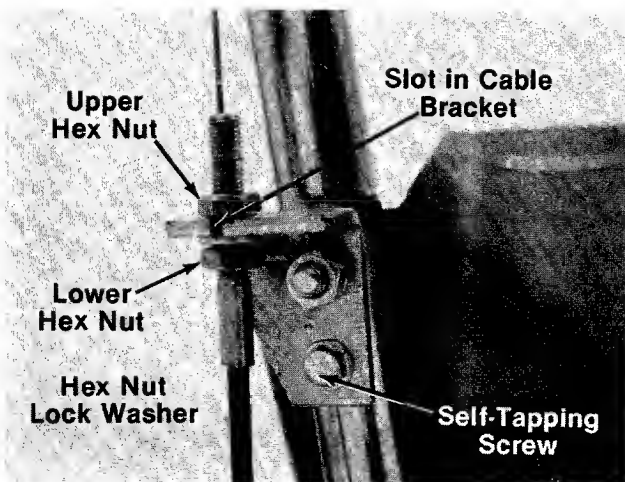


FIGURE 6.

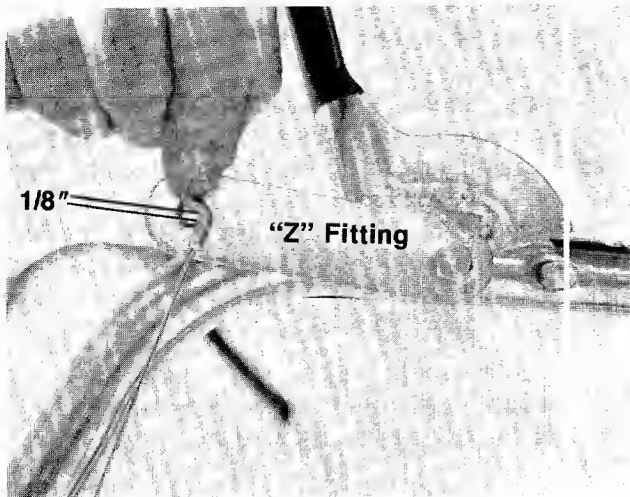


FIGURE 7.

6. Hook the "Z" end of the cable into the hole on the clutch grip. Replace the cable bracket and secure with hex nut, lock washer and self-tapping screw.



CAUTION

The final adjustment of the blade clutch control cable must be made before the engine is started. Final adjustment will be covered on page 9.

7. Secure cable to handle with cable ties (G). Cut off excess end of cable ties.

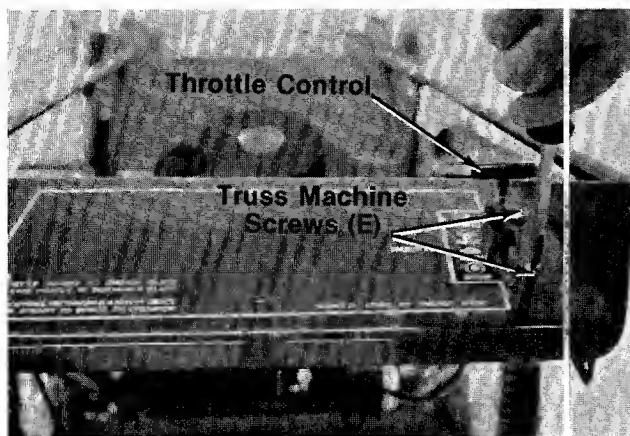


FIGURE 8.

THROTTLE CONTROL INSTALLATION

Place the speed nuts (F), flat side up, onto the throttle control. Place throttle control lever up through the hole in the handle panel. Secure with truss machine screws (E) as shown in figure 8.

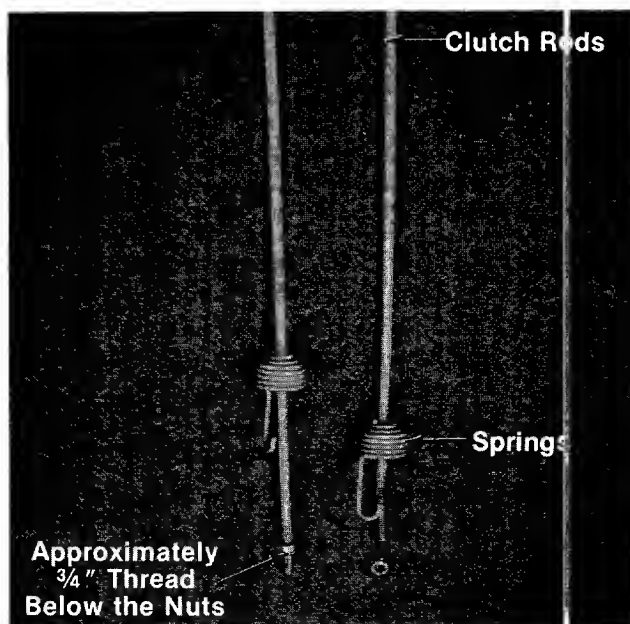


FIGURE 9.

DRIVE CLUTCH ROD INSTALLATION

1. Slide the springs up the clutch rods. Thread the nuts onto the rods until approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " of threads extend below the nuts. See figure 9.

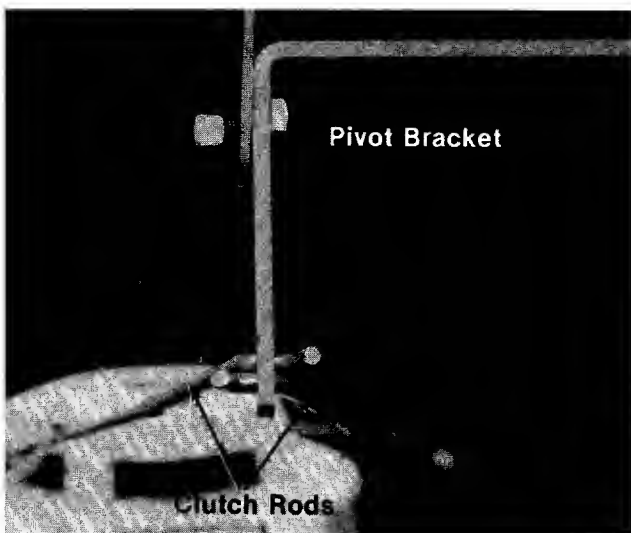


FIGURE 10.

2. Hook the clutch rods into the slotted hole on the long side of the pivot bracket, located beneath the handle panel. The right hand rod hooks on the bottom. See figure 10.

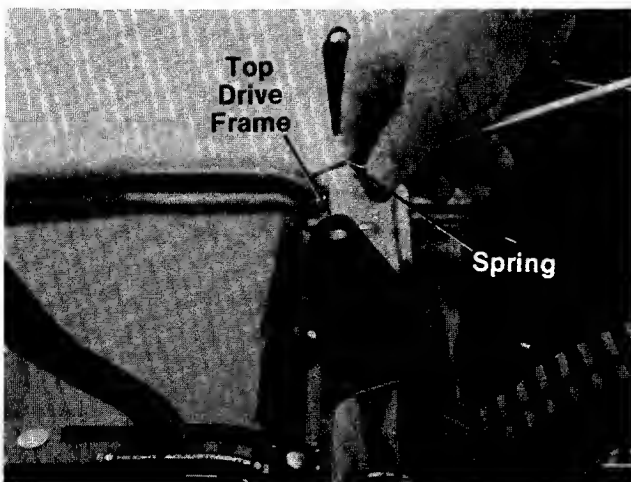


FIGURE 11.

3. Hook the springs on the clutch rods into the holes in the top drive frame. See figure 11.



CAUTION

The final adjustment of the drive clutch must be made before the engine is started. Final adjustment is covered on page 8.

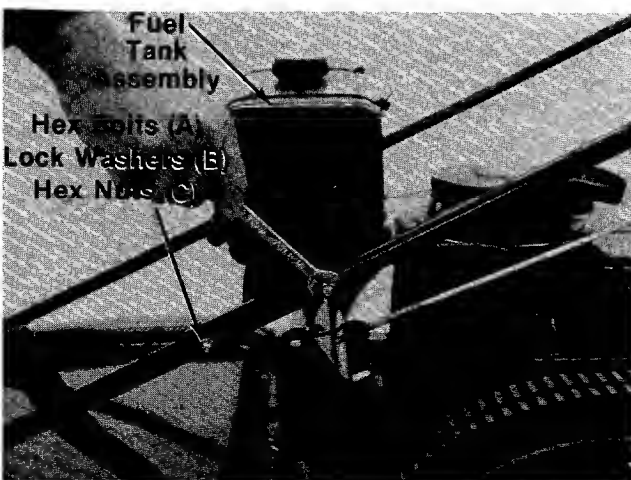


FIGURE 12.

FUEL TANK INSTALLATION (Model 574 Only)

1. Place the fuel tank assembly in position on the strut bars as shown in figure 12. Secure to strut bars using hex bolts (A), lock washers (B) and hex nuts (C). Tighten securely.

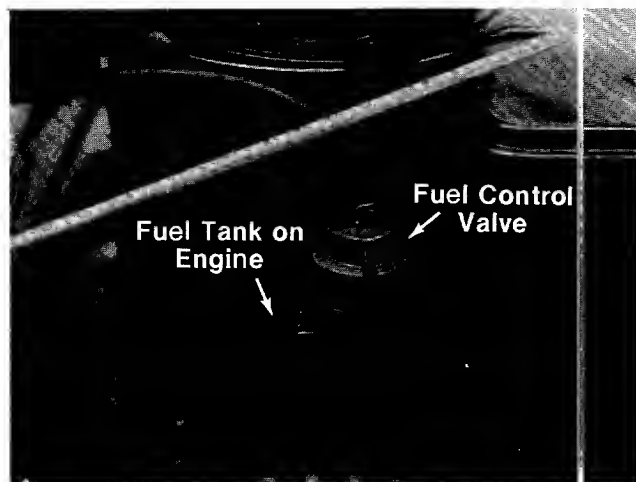


FIGURE 13.

2. Install fuel control valve into the fuel tank on the engine as shown in figure 13. It may be necessary to disconnect the fuel line in order to thread the fuel control valve into the fuel tank. Reconnect the fuel line.

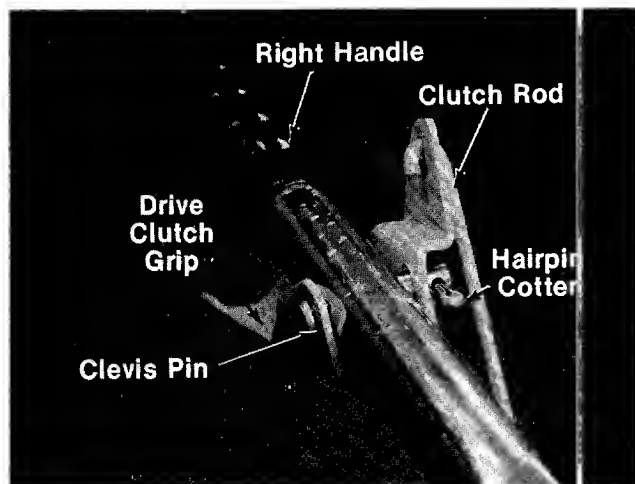


FIGURE 14.

FINAL ADJUSTMENTS

Drive Clutch Adjustment

(Make this adjustment with the engine off.)

- With the drive clutch grip released as shown in figure 14, there should be a minimum clearance of 1/8" between the drive pinions and wheels. See figure 15. With the clutch engaged (clutch grip squeezed), the pinions should engage solidly into the tread of the wheels.

If adjustment is needed, remove the cotter pin and clevis pin. Remove the clutch grip. If there is not 1/8" of clearance, unthread the control rod from the ferrule a few turns. If the pinions do not engage solidly into the wheels, thread the control rod further into the ferrule.

Reassemble the clutch grip and check the adjustment. Repeat as necessary.

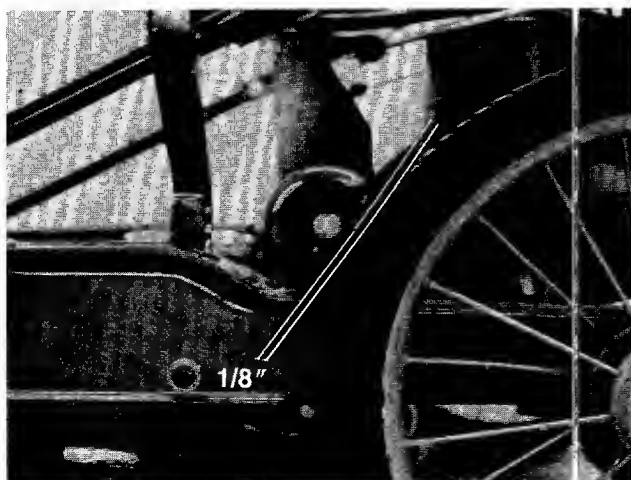


FIGURE 15.

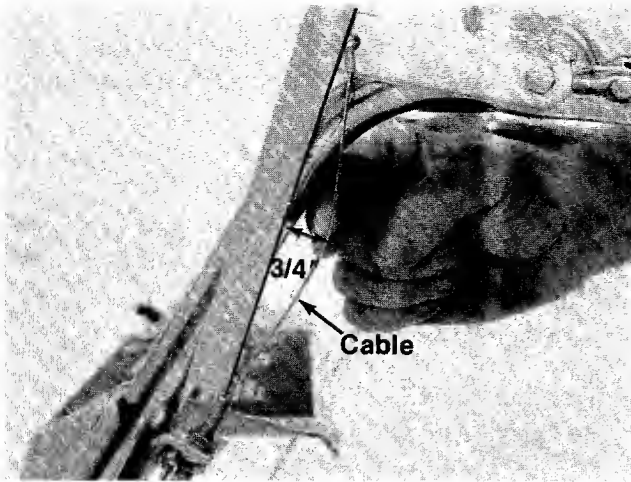


FIGURE 16.

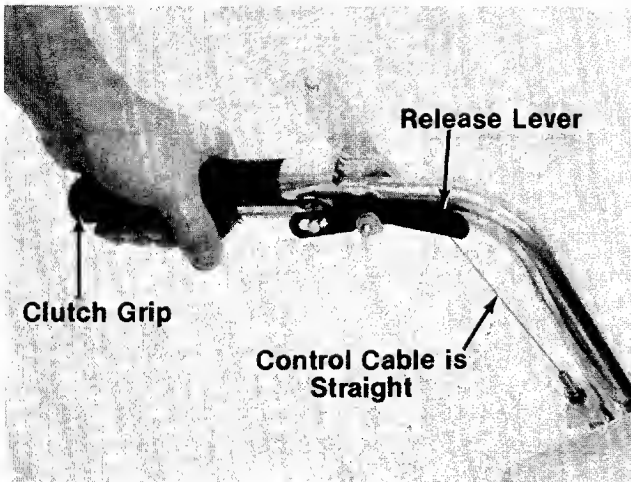


FIGURE 17.

Blade Clutch Adjustment

With the clutch grip in the released (raised) position, the blade clutch control cable should have approximately 3/4" deflection as shown in figure 16.



WARNING

There must be slack in the blade clutch cable when the clutch grip is in the released position. Periodically adjust the cable as necessary to maintain the slack.

Push the release lever to free the clutch grip, then squeeze the clutch grip against the handle. The control cable should now be straight. See figure 17.

The blade clutch adjustment may be checked as follows.

1. Disconnect the spark plug wire from the spark plug and ground it against the engine block.
2. Block the wheels of the unit.
3. Place the deck in the lowest position. (Refer to control section.)
4. With the blade clutch grip released, pull the recoil starter rope several times. The belt and blade pulley on top of the deck should not turn.



NOTE

If the belt slips when cutting heavy grass, the cable could be too loose and should be readjusted as specified.

CONTROLS

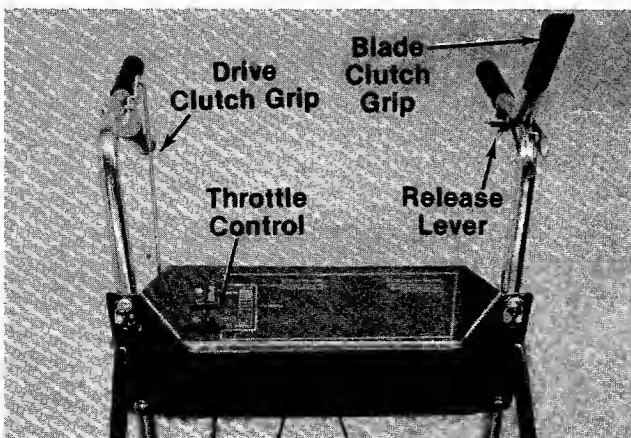


FIGURE 18.

THROTTLE CONTROL

The throttle control is located on the right hand side of handle panel. It controls engine speed. See figure 18:

DRIVE CLUTCH GRIP

The drive clutch grip is located on the right handle of the mower. Squeezing the clutch grip engages the drive pinions into the wheels. Release the clutch handle and the forward motion of the mower stops. You must release the clutch handle to make a turn. See figure 18.

BLADE CLUTCH GRIP

The blade clutch grip is located on the left handle. Push the release lever to free the blade clutch grip, then squeeze the clutch grip against the handle to engage the blade. Release the grip to stop the blade from turning. See figure 18.

LIFT HANDLE

The lift handle is located on the left side of the frame. It is used to raise or lower the deck to one of five cutting heights, from 1" to 3". Move the handle to the right and then forward or backward to change cutting heights. See figure 19.

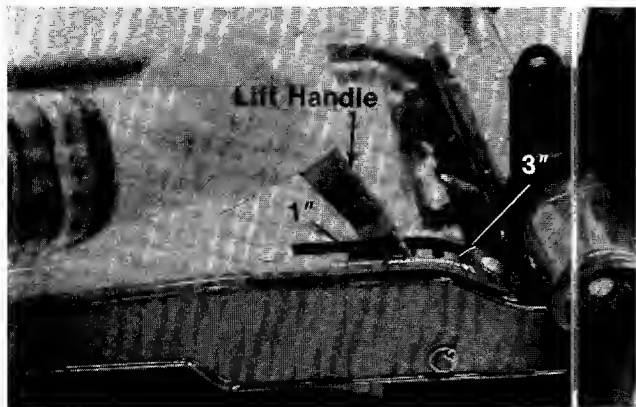


FIGURE 19.

OPERATION



FIGURE 20.

Keep hands and feet away from the chute area on cutting deck. See figure 20.

BEFORE STARTING

1. Check the lubricant level in the gear box. It must be maintained half full at all times and should be checked prior to each mowing. See the lubrication section of this manual.

2. Check the final adjustment section of the Assembly Instructions to be sure the drive clutch and blade clutch controls are working properly.
3. Fill sump with oil as instructed in the separate engine manual packed with your unit.
4. Fill fuel tank using clean, fresh, lead-free, low-lead, or regular grade leaded gasoline. Fill tank completely!

DO NOT MIX OIL WITH GASOLINE.

TO START ENGINE

1. Be certain both clutch grips are in the dis-engaged position (released). See figure 18.
2. Move the throttle control to the "CHOKE" position. See figure 18.
3. From the left side, opposite the discharge chute and with one foot on the deck, grasp the recoil starter handle and pull out rapidly. Allow the rope to rewind slowly. If the engine does not start after two or three tries, move the throttle control to the "FAST" position and try again.
4. After the engine starts, move the throttle control into the "FAST" position.
5. After starting, lower the deck and carefully observe to see if the blade belt is turning. If the blade belt rotates, shut the engine off immediately. Adjust the clutch cable as instructed in the final adjustment section of the assembly instructions. Reassemble and carefully test again.

TO STOP

1. The engine is stopped by moving the throttle control lever to "STOP" position.
2. The blade is stopped by releasing the blade clutch grip, located on the left handle.
3. Ground movement is stopped by releasing the drive clutch grip, located on the right handle.
4. Disconnect spark plug wire from the spark plug and ground to prevent accidental starting while equipment is unattended.

USING YOUR ROTARY MOWER

Be sure that lawn is clear of stones, sticks, wire, or other objects which could damage lawn mower or engine. Such objects could be accidentally thrown by the mower in any direction and cause serious personal injury to the operator and others.

Appropriate clothing should be worn when cutting brush or heavy weeds. Safety shoes and safety glasses are highly recommended.

Operate a new engine at intermediate speeds and light load for the first few hours as you would a new automotive engine.

For best results, do not cut wet grass because it tends to stick to the underside of the mower, preventing proper discharge of grass clippings, and could cause you to slip and fall. New grass, thick grass or wet grass may require a narrower cut. Blade speeds should be adjusted to the condition of the lawn.

The best mowing pattern is one that allows the clippings to discharge towards the uncut part of the lawn. This permits recutting of the clippings to further pulverize them. When cutting high weeds, discharge towards cut portion, then recut at right angles to first direction.

For best results, cut off one-third or less of the total length of the grass. Lawn should be cut in the fall as long as there is growth.

This mower is designed to be operated at full throttle to give you the best cut. However, unit should be run at slower speeds until operator is thoroughly familiar with controls.



IMPORTANT

If you strike a foreign object, stop the engine. Remove wire from spark plug, thoroughly inspect the mower for any damage, and repair the damage before restarting and operating the mower. Extensive vibration of the mower during operation is an indication of damage. The unit should be promptly inspected and repaired.

ADJUSTMENTS



CAUTION

Do not at any time make any adjustment to lawn mower without first stopping engine and disconnecting spark plug wire.

DRIVE AND BLADE CLUTCH ADJUSTMENTS

To adjust the drive clutch and blade clutch, refer to the final adjustment section of the assembly instructions.

THROTTLE

If adjustment becomes necessary, the throttle control wire assembly can be reset as follows:

1. Loosen, but do not remove, screw securing throttle control wire assembly at engine. See figure 21.

2. Move throttle control lever on handle to "CHOKE" position.
3. Move control lever on engine to full open position. Retighten screw to secure throttle control wire assembly.

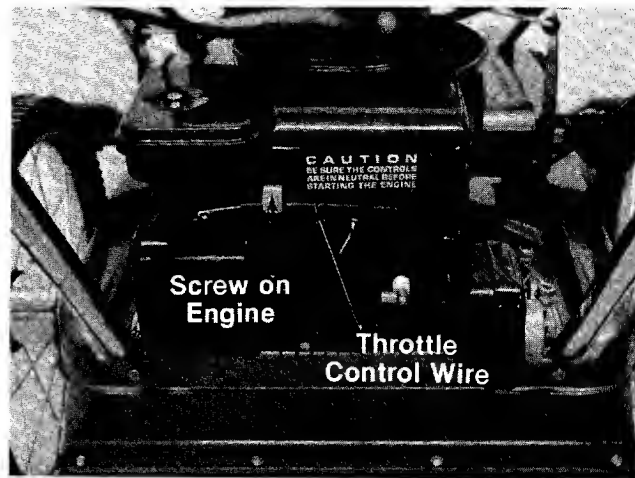


FIGURE 21.

CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS



WARNING

If any adjustments are made to the engine while the engine is running (e.g. carburetor), disengage all clutches and blades. Keep clear of all moving parts and be careful of heated surfaces and muffler.

Minor carburetor adjustment may be required to compensate for differences in fuel, temperature, altitude and load.

If carburetor adjustment is required, refer to the separate engine manual packed with your unit.

LUBRICATION



IMPORTANT

Always stop engine and disconnect spark plug wire before cleaning, lubricating, or doing any kind of work on the lawn mower.

1. **Wheels**—Front and rear wheel bearings are ball bearing. Lubricate periodically with a few drops of light oil. To lubricate the rear wheels, remove the oil caps and add several drops of oil.

Also, if the wheels are removed for any reason, lubricate the surface of the axle bolt and the inner surface of the wheel with light oil. A 4 oz. plastic bottle of light oil lubricant is available. Order part number 737-0170. Engine oil may also be used.

2. **Throttle**—Periodically lubricate throttle control lever and throttle wire assembly with a few drops of light oil for ease of operation.
3. **Engine**—Follow engine manual for lubrication instructions.
4. **Gear Box**—Check lubricant in the gear box. This must be maintained half full at all times and should be checked prior to each mowing. The gear box is packed at the factory with Alduralube Heavy or Temprite No. 2. It is suggested that this or an equivalent type and quality fibrous high heat wheel bearing grease be used in maintaining this mechanism.
5. **Chute Deflector**—The torsion spring and pivot point should be lubricated periodically with light oil to prevent any rust or binding. Deflector must work freely.
6. **Clutch Control**—Lubricate the pivot point on the clutch handle and the cable at least once a season with light oil. The control must operate freely in both directions.
7. **Pinion Bearings**—Lubricate with a few drops of engine oil once a season.
8. The blade spindle bearings are sealed and require no further lubrication.
9. Lubricate all other linkage after every 25 hours of operation with light oil.

MAINTENANCE

CUTTING BLADE

A. Removal for Sharpening or Replacement



WARNING

Be sure to disconnect and ground the spark plug wire before working on the cutting blade to prevent accidental engine starting.

1. Remove the large bolt and lock washer which holds the blade and adapter to the blade spindle. See figure 22.

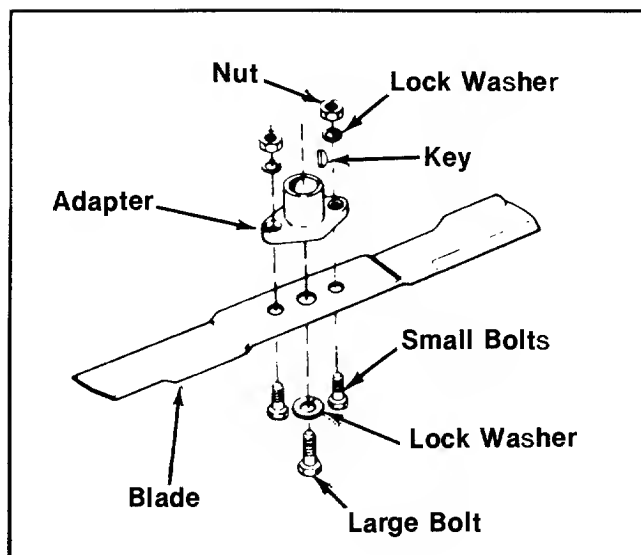


FIGURE 22.

2. Remove the blade and adapter from the spindle. Be careful not to lose the key on the spindle.
3. If the blade or blade adapter needs replacing, remove the two small bolts, lock washers and nut which hold the blade to the adapter.



CAUTION

Periodically inspect the blade adapter for cracks, especially if you strike a foreign object. Replace when necessary.

B. Sharpening

Remove the cutting blade by following the directions of the preceding section.

When sharpening the blade, follow the original angle of grind as a guide. It is **extremely important** that each cutting edge receives an equal amount of grinding to prevent an unbalanced blade. An unbalanced blade will cause excessive vibration when rotating at high speeds, may cause damage to the mower, and could break, causing personal injury.

The blade can be tested for balance by balancing it on a round shaft screwdriver. Remove metal from the heavy side until it balances evenly. See figure 23.



NOTE

It is recommended that the blade always be removed from the adapter for the best test of balance.

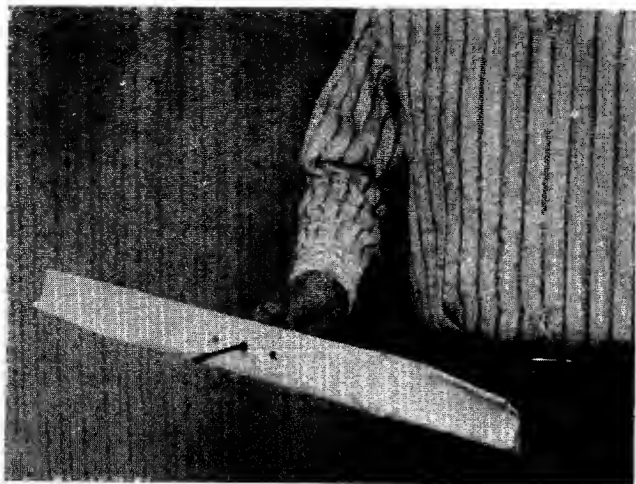


FIGURE 23.

C. Reassembly

Before reassembling the blade and the blade adapter to the unit, lubricate the blade spindle and the inner surface of the blade adapter with light oil. Lubricating the bolt holes, bolts and inner surface of the nuts with light oil is also recommended. A 4 oz. plastic bottle of light oil lubricant is available. Order part number 737-0170. Engine oil may also be used.

When replacing the blade, be sure to install the blade with the side of the blade marked "Bottom" (or with part number) facing the ground when the mower is in the operating position. Make certain key is in place on the spindle.

Blade Mounting Torque

3/8" Dia. Bolt 375 in. lb. min., 450 in. lb. max.

5/16" Dia. Bolt 150 in. lb. min., 250 in. lb. max.

To insure safe operation of your unit, ALL nuts and bolts must be checked periodically for correct tightness.

DECK

The underside of mower deck should be cleaned after each period of use as grass clippings, leaves, dirt and other matter will accumulate. This accumulation of grass clippings, etc., is undesirable as it will invite rust and corrosion and may cause an uneven discharge of grass clippings at the next cutting.

The deck may be cleaned by tilting the mower forward or on its side and scraping clean with a suitable tool or by washing with a stream of water from a garden hose.



CAUTION

Do not direct the stream of water at a hot engine as damage to the engine may result.

ENGINE OIL

Check oil level before starting and after every 5 hours of operation or each period of use. ADD oil as necessary to keep level FULL TO POINT OF OVERFLOWING. Before removing oil fill plug, clean area around plug to prevent dirt from entering oil fill hole. Engine should be in a level position when checking oil.

Change oil after first 5 hours of operation. Thereafter, change every 25 hours. Change oil while engine is warm. Oil may be drained through oil drain at the base of the engine. A hole is provided in the frame for this purpose. Be sure unit is level so that oil drains completely. Oil capacity 1 3/4 pints. See figure 24.

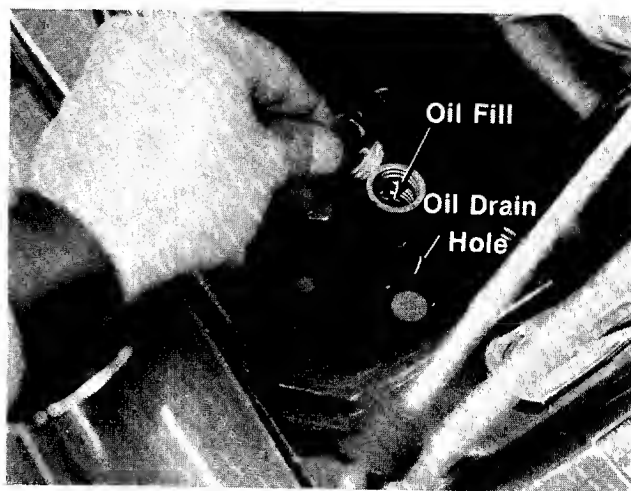


FIGURE 24.

AIR CLEANER

Clean air cleaner every 25 hours under normal conditions. Clean every few hours under extremely dusty conditions. Poor engine performance and flooding usually indicates that the air cleaner should be serviced. To service the air cleaner, refer to the separate engine manual packed with your unit.

SPARK PLUG

The spark plug should be cleaned and the gap reset once a season. Spark plug replacement is recommended at the start of each mowing season; check engine manual for correct plug type and gap specification.

SERVICE NOTES

Clearance between drive pinion and drive wheel should be approximately 1/8" when drive clutch grip is released. Refer to figure 15. Excess clearance will cause premature belt wear. Adjust cable as necessary.

If drive mechanism does not pivot freely on frame plates, loosen the stop nuts on each side. See figure 25. Belts will be damaged and wear prematurely if mechanism does not move freely.

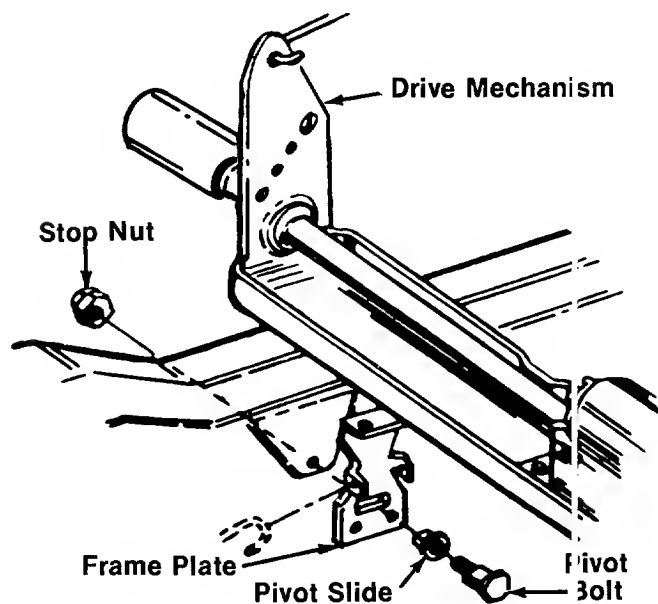


FIGURE 25.

BELT REPLACEMENT

Deck Belt (See Figure 26)

1. Disconnect the spark plug wire and ground it against the engine block.
2. Place the deck in its lowest position.
3. Remove the two belt keepers on the engine belt guard.
4. Remove the deck belt from the engine pulley.
5. Remove the belt keeper which is located on the right hand side of the deck at the blade pulley.



Upon reassembly, be certain the clutch cable bracket is assembled above the belt keeper as shown in figure 26.

6. Remove the idler pulley by removing the elastic lock nut.
7. Remove the belt. Reassemble in reverse order with a new belt.
8. Readjust the control cable. Refer to page 9.

Drive Belt (See Figure 26)

1. Follow steps 1 through 4 of the Deck Belt Replacement Section.
2. Remove the engine belt guard.

3. Remove the bottom drive frame by removing the two bolts on each end.



Upon reassembly, be certain the drive frame stops are assembled as shown in figure 26. Also, be certain the hex flange bearing is assembled on the shaft beneath the drive pulley and through the drive frame. Operating the unit without the bearing in place will cause damage to the unit.

4. Unhook the two springs from the frame as shown in figure 26.
5. Roll the belt off the drive pulley and the engine pulley.
6. Reassemble in reverse order with a new belt.

OFF-SEASON STORAGE

The following steps should be taken to prepare lawn mower for storage.

1. Clean and lubricate mower thoroughly as described in the lubrication instructions.
2. Refer to engine manual for correct engine storage instructions.
3. Coat mower's cutting blade with chassis grease to prevent rusting.
4. Store mower in a dry, clean area.



CAUTION

When storing any type of power equipment in an unventilated or metal storage shed, care should be taken to rust proof the equipment. Using a light oil or silicone, coat the equipment, especially springs, bearings and cables.

BELT REPLACEMENT

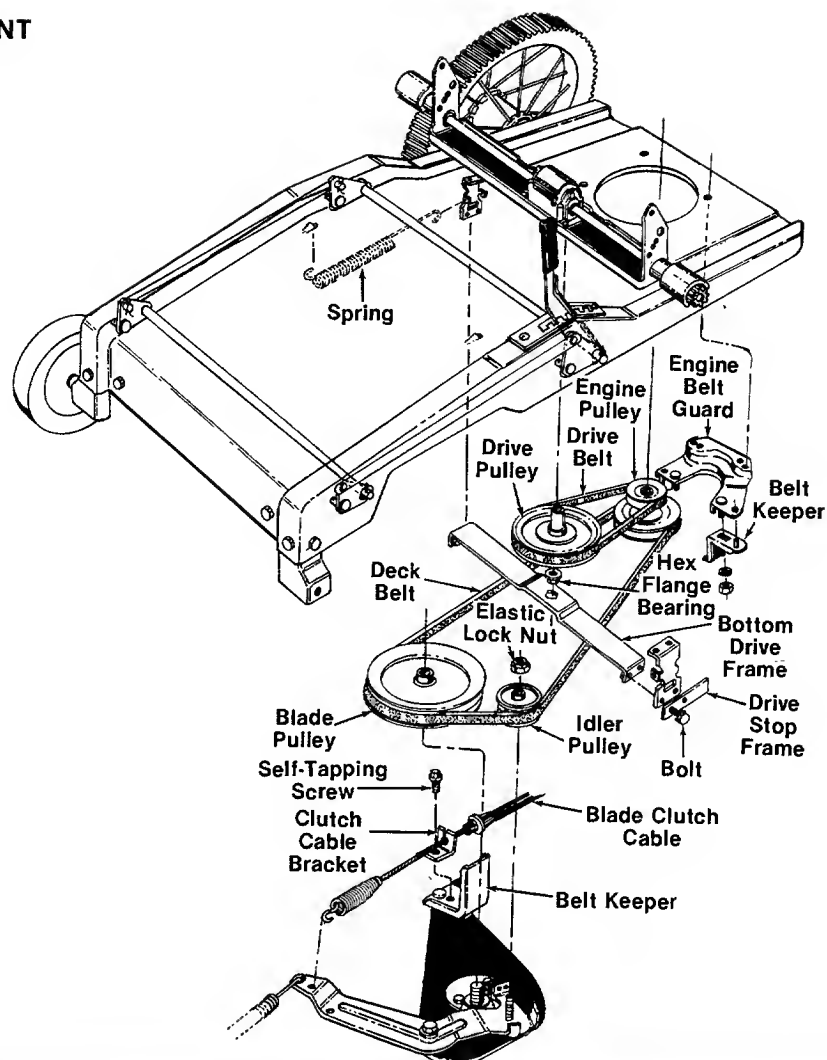


FIGURE 26.



NOTE

The use of any accessory on this Rotary Mower other than those manufactured by the mower manufacturer is **not** recommended.

GRASS CATCHER Model 015 is available as optional equipment for the mower shown in this manual.



WARNING

1. DO NOT operate the mower without the entire grass catcher or chute deflector in place.
2. DO NOT operate the mower without the protective shield on the rear of the deck in place.



NOTE

Under normal usage bag material is subject to wear and should be checked periodically. Be sure any replacement bag complies with the mower manufacturer's recommendations.

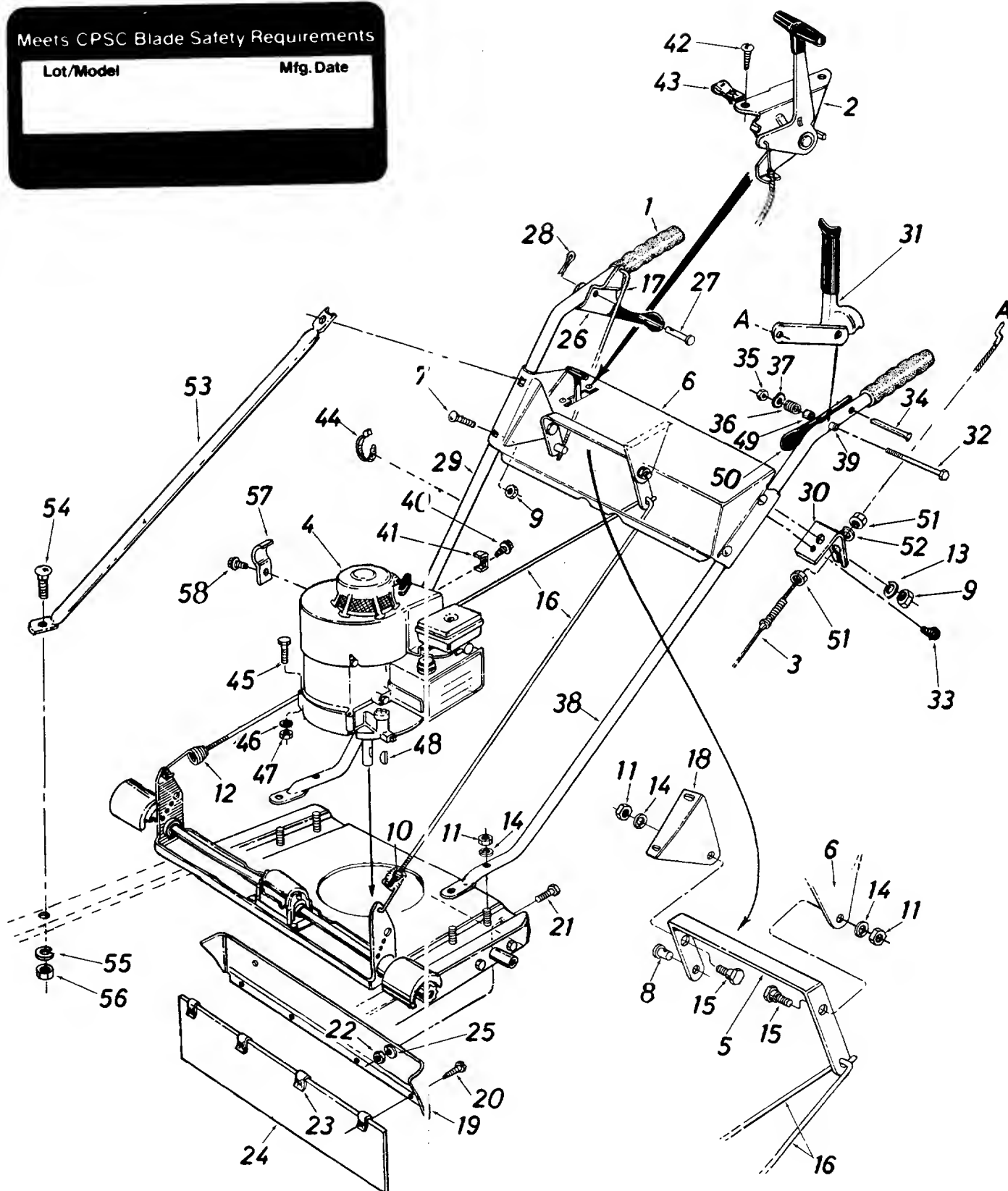
For replacement bags, use only factory authorized replacement bag No. 764-0121.

Models 573 and 574

Meets CPSC Blade Safety Requirements

Lot/Model

Mfg. Date



Models 573 and 574

PARTS LIST FOR MODELS 573 and 574 ROTARY MOWERS

REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART	REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	720-0204		Grip—Black		33	710-0599		Hex Wash. S-Tap Scr. 1/4-20	
2	746-0378		Throttle Control Ass'y.—Comp.					x .50" Lg.	
3	746-0488		Clutch Cable—56" Long		34	731-0607		Lock Pin	
4	—		Engine		35	712-0291		Hex Cent. L-Nut 1/4-20 Thd.	
5	12570		Link Bracket		36	732-0334		Compression Spring .50" O.D. x .50" Lg.	
6	15335		Handle Panel Ass'y.		37	736-0498		Internal Tooth L-Wash.	
7	710-0458		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.75" Lg.*		38	749-0557		L.H. Handle (Chrome)	
8	711-0619		Adj. Ferrule 1/4-20 Thd.			749-0555		L.H. Handle (Painted)	
9	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*		39	750-0566		Spacer .255" I.D.	
10	712-0324		Hex Ins. L-Nut 1/4-20 Thd.		40	710-0429		Hex B-Tap Scr. #10 x .38" Lg.	
11	712-0798		Hex Nut 3/8-16 Thd.*		41	751-0333		Casing Clamp	
12	732-0305		Extension Spring		42	710-0224		Hex Wash. Hd. AB-Tap Scr. #10 x .50" Lg.	
13	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*		43	712-0344		Speed Nut 10Z	
14	736-0169		L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.*		44	725-0157		Cable Tie Self Clinching	
15	738-0234		Shld. Bolt .500" Dia. x .295		45	710-0158		Hex Bolt 5/16-24 x 1.25" Lg.*	
16	747-0162		Lockout Rod		46	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
17	747-0163		Rod .214" Dia. x 14.87" Lg.		47	712-0123		Hex Nut 5/16-24 Thd.*	
18	12571		Bracket		48	714-0365		#6 Hi-Pro Key 5/32 x 5/8" Dia.	
19	12548		Drag Shield Adapter		49	750-0565		Spacer .255" I.D. x .375" O.D.	
20	710-0436		Hex B-Tap Scr. #10 x .62" Lg.		50	732-0441		Lock Spring	
21	710-0567		Hex Bolt 1/4-28 x .62" Lg.*		51	712-0256		Hex Jam Nut 5/16-24 Thd.	
22	712-0138		Hex Nut 1/4-28 Thd.*		52	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
23	726-0130		Speed Nut 10Z U-Type		53	749-0523		Strut	
24	735-0182		Drag Shield 4.65" x 20.0" Lg.		54	710-0260		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*	
25	736-0329		L-Wash. 1/4" I.D.*					L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
26	12921		Clutch Grip Ass'y.		55	736-0119		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
27	711-0415		Clevis Pin .375" Dia.		56	712-0267		Casing Clamp	
28	714-0104		Intern. Cot. Pin 5/16" Dia.		57	12894		Hex Wash-Hd. Tap Scr. #10 x .50" Lg.	
29	749-0556		R.H. Handle (Chrome)		58	710-0456		Hardware Pack (574)	
	749-0554		R.H. Handle (Painted)					Hardware Pack (573)	
30	15093		Clutch Cable Brkt.		—	8574-000-4			
31	15482		Blade Clutch Grip Ass'y.		—	8573-000-4			
32	710-0641		Hex Bolt 1/4-20 x 2.25" Lg.*						

*For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washers locally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

(462—Red Flake)

When ordering parts, if color or finish is important, use the appropriate color code shown above. (e.g. Red Flake Finish—10292 (462).)



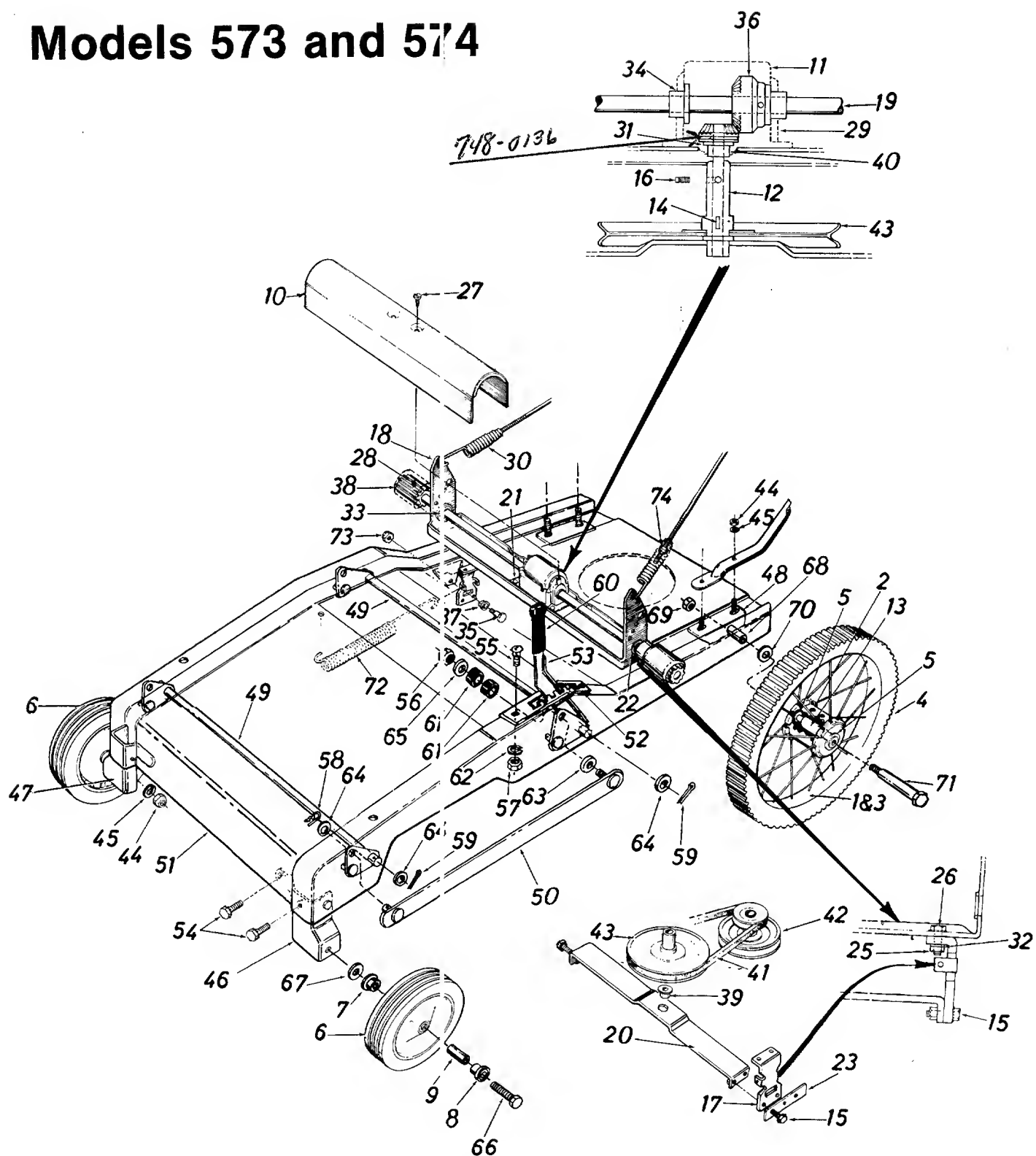
NOTE

This instruction manual covers various models and all specifications shown do not necessarily apply to your model. Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.

NOTE: The engine is not under warranty by the mower manufacturer...If repairs or service is needed on the engine, please contact your nearest authorized engine service outlet. Check the "Yellow Pages" of your telephone book under "Engines—Gasoline."



Models 573 and 574



NOTE

- To engage the blade with the engine running...
1. Move the throttle control lever to "FAST" position.
 2. Engage the blade clutch grip SLOWLY.
 3. Adjust engine speed.

Gear box is lubricated with two ounces of High Temp. 450°F. grease, plastilube #0. Order by part number 737-0166.

Models 573 and 574

PARTS LIST FOR MODELS 573 and 574 ROTARY MOWERS

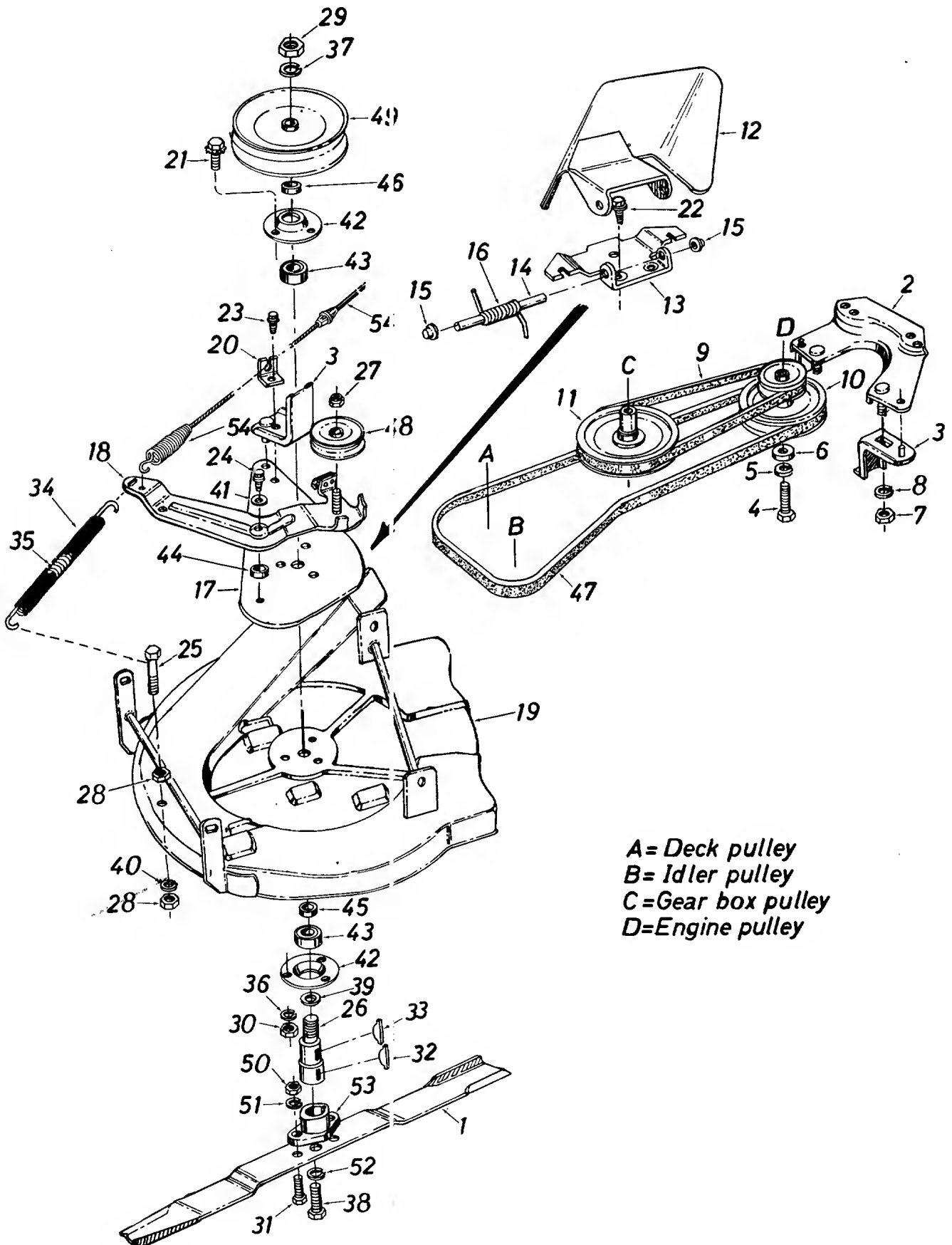
REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART	REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	734-0424		16" Wheel Ass'y. Comp.—Rear		40	748-0269		Flange Brg. .503" I.D. w/Groove	
2	718-0132		Oil Cap		41	754-0143		3V-Belt 28" Lg.	
3	734-0180		Rear Wheel—Rim Only		42	756-0154		Double Pulley	
4	734-0391		Rear Wheel—Tire Only 16 x 1.75		43	756-0155		3/8" V-Pulley .502" I.D. x 6.5" O.D.	
5	741-0138		Ball Brg. .630" I.D.		44	712-0375		Hex L-Nut 3/8-16 Thd.	
6	734-0642		Wheel Ass'y. Comp.—Front—8 x 1.75		45	736-0169		L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.*	
7	741-0267		Flanged Ball Brg. 3/8" I.D.		46	10293		Wheel Brk't. Ass'y.—L.H.	
8	741-0484		Flanged Ball Brg. 1/2" I.D.		47	10294		Wheel Brk't. Ass'y.—R.H.	
9	750-0434		Spacer 3/8" I.D.		48	10297		Rear Wheel Brk't. Ass'y.	
10	08100		Top Drive Frame Cover		49	15329		Lift Bracket Shaft Ass'y.	
11	08187		Gear Box Cover		50	15331		Connecting Link Ass'y.	
12	10254		Pinion Ass'y.		51	15340		Frame	
13	711-0426		Wheel Spacer		52	15341		Lift Handle Support Brk't.	
14	714-0229		#2 Woodruff Key 3/32 x 1/2" Dia. Hdn.		53	15342		Lift Handle	
15	710-0322		Hex Sems Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.00" Lg.*		54	710-0198		Hex Sems Bolt 5/16-18 x .75" Lg.*	
16	710-0421		Set Scr. 5/16-18 x .25" Cup		55	710-0260		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*	
17	10320		Bottom Drive Frame		56	712-0116		Hex Ins. L-Nut 3/8-24 Thd.	
18	15493		Top Drive Frame Ass'y.		57	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*	
19	10322		Drive Shaft		58	714-0104		Intern. Cot. Pin 5/16" Dia.	
20	10328		Bottom Drive Frame Ass'y.		59	714-0115		Cot. Pin 1/8" Dia. x 1.00" Lg.*	
21	710-0776		Hex Self-Tap Scr. 1/4-20 x .62" Lg.		60	720-0142		Grip—Black	
22	711-0169		Collar 5/8" I.D.		61	735-0126		Rubber Wash. .33" I.D. x .87" O.D.	
23	10883		Drive Frame Stop		62	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
25	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*		63	736-0235		FI-Wash. .406" I.D. x 1.25" O.D. x .164	
26	710-0198		Hex Sems Bolt 5/16-18 x .75" Lg.*		64	736-0272		FI-Wash. .510" I.D. x 1.0" O.D. x .060	
27	710-0227		Hex Wash. Hd. AB-Tap Scr. #8 x .50" Lg.		65	736-0300		FI-Wash. .385" I.D. x .87" O.D. x .06	
28	715-0120		Spring Pin Spir. 3/16" Dia. x 1.00" Lg.		66	710-0427		Hex Bolt 3/8-16 x 2.00" Lg.*	
29	717-0108		Gear Box		67	736-0105		Bell-Wash. .400" I.D. x .88" O.D.	
30	732-0305		Extension Spring		68	711-0425		Spacer .523" I.D. x .640" O.D. x 1.955	
31	735-0193		"O"-Ring		69	712-0181		Hex Top L-Nut 3/8-16 Thd.	
32	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*		70	736-0192		FI-Wash. .531" I.D. x .93" O.D.	
33	741-0138		Ball Brg. .630" I.D.		71	738-0114		Shld. Bolt .498" Dia. x 4.755	
34	748-0110		Flange Brg. .630" I.D.		72	732-0206		Extension Spring .56" O.D. x 8.25" Lg.	
35	738-0141		Shld. Bolt .443" Dia. x .330		73	712-0429		Hex Ins. L-Nut 5/16-18 Thd.	
36	748-0135		Bevel Gear .62" I.D. 28 Teeth		74	712-0324		Hex Ins. L-Nut 1/4-20 Thd.	
37	748-0180		Pivot Slide						
38	748-0182		Drive Pinion						
39	748-0226		Hex Flange Brg. .503" I.D.						

*For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washers locally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

(462—Red Flake)

When ordering parts, if color or finish is important, use the appropriate color code shown above. (e.g. Red Flake Finish—10292 (462).)

Models 573 and 574



Models 573 and 574

PARTS LIST FOR MODELS 573 and 574 ROTARY MOWERS

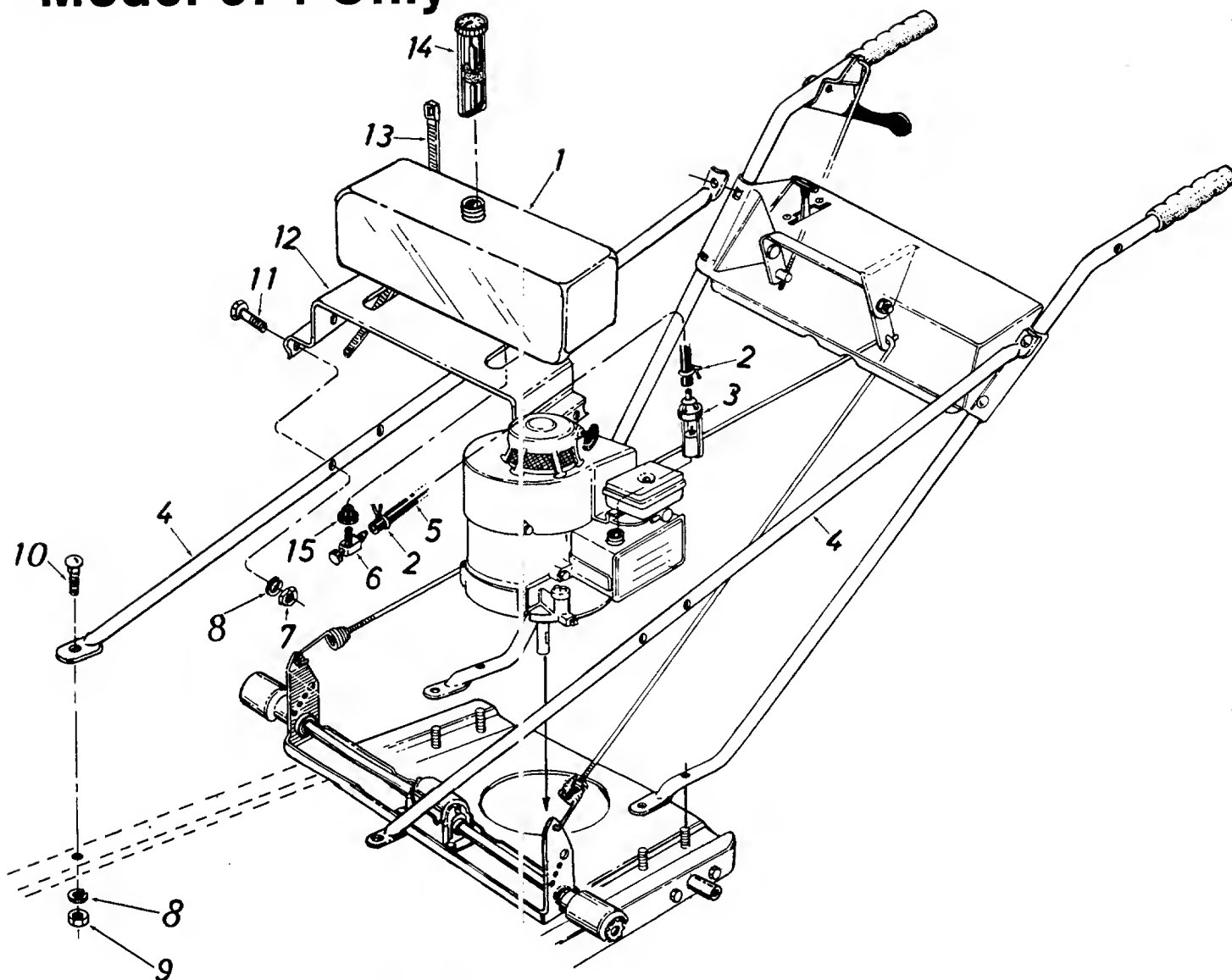
REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART	REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	742-0147		26" Blade		32	714-0365		#6 Hi-Pro Key 5/32 x 5/8" Dia.	
2	10423		Belt Guard Cup Ass'y.		33	714-0388		#61 Hi-Pro Key 3/16" x 5/8" Dia.	
3	10426		Belt Keeper Ass'y.		34	731-0675		Plastic Tube .52" I.D. x 7.0" Lg.	
4	710-0152		Hex Bolt 3/8-24 x 1.00" Lg.*		35	732-0448		Ext. Spring .50" O.D. x 5.2" Lg.	
5	736-0169		L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.		36	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
6	736-0235		FI-Wash. .406" I.D. x 1.25" O.D.		37	736-0158		L-Wash. 5/8" I.D.*	
7	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*		38	710-0459		Hex Bolt 3/8-24 x 1.50" Lg. (Grade 5)	
8	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*		39	13703		Bearing Shield	
9	754-0143		3V-Belt 28" Lg.		40	736-0329		L-Wash. 1/4" I.D.*	
10	756-0154		Double Pulley		41	736-0343		FI-Wash. .330" I.D. x 1.25" O.D. x .120	
11	756-0155		3/8" V-Pulley .502" I.D. x 6.5" O.D.		42	08253		Bearing Housing	
12	11634	—462	Chute Cover Ass'y. Comp.		43	741-0919		Ball Brg. .787" I.D. x 1.85" O.D.	
13	11396		Adapter Plate		44	750-0258		Spacer .315" I.D. x .75" O.D. x .37" Lg.	
14	711-0571		Hinge Pin		45	750-0142		Spacer .836" I.D. x 1.01" O.D. x .320" Lg.	
15	726-0106		Cap Speed Nut 1/4" Rod		46	748-0168		Spacer .630" I.D. x 1.135" O.D. x .195" Lg.	
16	732-0261		Torsion Spring		47	754-0267		"V"-Belt-A Sec. x 59.0" Lg.	
17	12453		Deck Belt Guard Plate		48	756-0116		"V"-Idler 3.06" O.D.	
18	12469		Deck Idler Brkt. Ass'y.		49	756-0143		5/8" V-Pulley .625" I.D. x 7.0" O.D.	
19	15325		26" Deck Ass'y.		50	712-0123		Hex Nut 5/16-24 Thd.*	
20	15343		Cable Support Brkt.		51	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
21	710-0322		Hex Sems Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.00" Lg.		52	736-0217		L-Wash. 3/8" I.D.—Heavy Duty	
22	710-0599		Hex Wash. S-Tap Scr. 1/4-20 x .50" Lg.		53	10769		Blade Adapter Kit	
23	710-0603		Hex Wash. Hd. B-Tap Scr. 5/16-18 x .50" Lg.		54	746-0488		Clutch Cable—56.0"	
24	710-0643		Hex L-Bolt 5/16-18 x 1.00" Lg.						
25	710-0698		Hex Bolt 1/4-28 x 1.50" Lg.*						
26	711-0405		Blade Spindle						
27	712-0116		Hex Ins. L-Nut 3/8-24 Thd.						
28	712-0117		Hex Cent. L-Nut 1/4-28 Thd.						
29	712-0242		Hex Jam Nut 5/8-11 Thd.*						
30	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18 Thd.*						
31	710-0888		Hex Bolt 5/16-24 x 1.00" Lg. (Grade 8)						

*For faster service obtain standard nuts, bolts and washers locally. If these items cannot be obtained locally, order by part number and size as shown on parts list.

(462—Red Flake)

When ordering parts, if color or finish is important, use the appropriate color code shown above. (e.g. Red Flake Finish—10292 (462).)

Model 574 Only



**MODEL 574 ONLY—PARTS LIST FOR
STRUT BARS AND GAS TANK ASSEMBLY**

REF. NO.	PART NO.	COLOR CODE	DESCRIPTION	NEW PART
1	751-0225		Fuel Tank	
2	726-0183		Hose Clamp 3/8" I.D.	
3	751-0297		Fuel Control Valve	
4	749-0523		Strut	
5	751-0173		Fuel Line	
6	751-0171		Fuel Tank Fitting	
7	712-0123		Hex Nut 5/16-24" Thd.*	
8	736-0119		L-Wash. 5/16" I.D.*	
9	712-0267		Hex Nut 5/16-18" Thd.*	
10	710-0260		Carriage Bolt 5/16-18 x .62" Lg.*	
11	710-0158		Hex Bolt 5/16-24 x 1.25" Lg.*	
12	14426		Fuel Tank Mntg. Brk't.	
13	726-0153		Cable Tie	
14	723-0155		Fuel Gauge	
15	735-0149		Bushing	

Trouble Shooting Chart

Problem	Cause	Remedy
1 Engine fails to start	A Check fuel tank for gas B Spark plug lead wire disconnected C Throttle control lever not in the starting position D Faulty spark plug E Carburetor improperly adjusted, engine flooded F Old stale gasoline	A Fill tank if empty. B Connect lead wire. C Move throttle lever to start position. D Spark should jump gap between control electrode and side electrode. If spark does not jump, replace the spark plug. E Remove spark plug, dry the plug, crank engine with plug removed, and throttle in off position. Replace spark plug and lead wire and resume starting procedures. F Drain and refill with fresh gasoline.
2 Hard starting or loss of power	A Spark plug wire loose B Carburetor improperly adjusted C Dirty air cleaner	A Connect and tighten spark plug wire. B Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. C Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual.
3 Operation erratic	A Dirt in gas tank B Dirty air cleaner C Water in fuel supply D Vent in gas cap plugged E Carburetor improperly adjusted	A Remove the dirt and fill tank with fresh gas. B Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual. C Drain contaminated fuel and fill tank with fresh gas. D Clear vent or replace gas cap. E Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual.
4 Occasional skip (hesitates) at high speed	A Carburetor idle speed too slow B Spark plug gap too close C Carburetor idle mixture adjustment improperly set	A Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. B Adjust to .030". C Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual.
5 Idles poorly	A Spark plug fouled, faulty, or gap too wide B Carburetor improperly adjusted C Dirty air cleaner	A Reset gap to .030" or replace spark plug. B Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. C Clean air cleaner as described in separate engine manual.
6 Engine overheats	A Carburetor not adjusted properly B Air flow restricted C Engine oil level low	A Adjust carburetor. See separate engine manual. B Remove blower housing and clean as described in separate engine manual. C Fill crankcase with the proper oil.
7 Excessive vibration	A Cutting blade loose or unbalanced B Bent blade	A Tighten blade and adapter. Balance blade. B Replace blade.

Note: For repairs beyond the minor adjustments listed above, contact your local authorized service dealer.

PARTS INFORMATION

POWER EQUIPMENT PARTS AND SERVICE

Parts and service are available through the authorized service firms listed below. All orders should specify the model number of your unit, part numbers, description of parts and the quantity of each part required.

BRIGGS AND STRATTON, TECUMSEH AND PEERLESS PARTS AND SERVICE

Briggs & Stratton, Tecumseh and Peerless parts and service should be handled by your nearest authorized engine service firm. Check the yellow pages of your telephone directory under the listing **Engines—Gasoline**, Briggs & Stratton or Tecumseh Lauson.

NOTE: If any parts are found to be missing or defective upon assembly of this unit, write to advise the factory so that immediate replacement can be made.

ALABAMA	BIRMINGHAM	
Auto Electric & Carburetor Co.	2625 4th Ave. S.	35233
ARKANSAS	NORTH LITTLE ROCK	
Sutton's Lawn Mower Shop	5301 Roundtop Drive Box 368, Rt. 4	72117
CALIFORNIA	PORTERVILLE	
Billious	75 North D Street	93257
COLORADO	DENVER	
Spitzer Industrial Products Co.	6601 N. Washington St.	80229
FLORIDA	JACKSONVILLE	
Radco Distributors	4909 Victor St. Box 5459	32207
	OPA LOCKA	
Small Eng. Dist.	2351 N.W. 147th St.	33054
GEORGIA	EAST POINT	
East Point Cycle & Key	2834 Church St.	30344
ILLINOIS	LYONS	
Keen Edge Co.	8615 Ogden Ave.	60534
INDIANA	ELKHART	
Parts & Sales Inc.	2101 Industrial Pkwy.	46516
IOWA	DUBUQUE	
Power Lawn & Garden Equip.	2551 J.F. Kennedy	52001
LOUISIANA	MONROE	
Mid-South Power	1500 Arkansas St.	71201
	NEW ORLEANS	
Suhren Engine Co.	8330 Earhart Blvd.	70118
MARYLAND	TAKOMA PARK	
Center Supply Co.	6867 New Hampshire Ave.	20912
MASSACHUSETTS	SPRINGFIELD	
Morton B. Collins Co.	300 Birnie Ave.	01107
MICHIGAN	LANSING	
Lorenz Service Co.	2500 S. Pennsylvania	48910
	MOUNT CLEMENS	
Power Equipment Dist.	340 Hubbard	48043
MINNESOTA	HOPKINS	
Hance Distributing Inc.	420 Excelsior Ave. W.	55343
MISSISSIPPI	BILOXI	
Biloxi Sales & Service, Inc.	506 Caillavet St.	39533
MISSOURI	KANSAS CITY	
Automotive Equip. Service	3117 Holmes St.	64109
	ST. JOSEPH	
Ross-Frazier Supply Co.	8th and Monterey	64503
	ST. LOUIS	
Henzler, Inc.	2015 Lemay Ferry Rd.	63125
NEW JERSEY	BELLMAWR	
Lawnmower Parts Inc.	717 Creek Rd.	08030
NEW MEXICO	ALBUQUERQUE	
Spitzer Eng. & Parts	1023 Third Ave. N.W.	87103
NEW YORK	CARTHAGE	
Gamble Dist., Inc.	West End Ave.	13619
	SCHOHARIE	
Red Fox Parts Dist.	Rt. 30 P.O. Box 527	12157

NORTH CAROLINA	GOLDSBORO	
Smith Hardware Co.	515 N. George St.	27530
	GREENSBORO	
Dixie Sales Company	335 N. Green	27402
OHIO	CARROLL	
Stebbe's Mid-State Mower Supply ..	Box 366, 71 High St.	43112
	CLEVELAND	
Bleckrie, Inc.	7900 Lorain Ave.	44102
	WADSWORTH	
National Central	687 Seville Rd.	44281
	YOUNGSTOWN	
Burton Supply Co.	1301 Logan Ave. Box 929	44501
OKLAHOMA	MUSKOGEE	
Victory Motors, Inc.	605 S. Cherokee	74401
OREGON	PORTLAND	
Kenton Supply Co.	8216 N. Denver Ave.	97217
PENNSYLVANIA	HARRISBURG	
EECO Inc.	4021 N. 6th St.	17110
	PHILADELPHIA	
Thompson Rubber Co.	5222-24 N. Fifth St.	19120
	PITTSBURGH	
Bluemont Co.	11125 Frankstown Rd.	15235
	PUNXSUTAWNEY	
Frank Roberts & Sons	R.D. 2	15767
	SCRANTON	
Scranton Auto Ignition Co.	1133-35 Wyoming Ave.	18509
TENNESSEE	KNOXVILLE	
Master Repair Service	2000 Western Ave.	379
	MEMPHIS	
American Sales & Service, Inc.	3035-43 Bellbrook	38110
TEXAS	DALLAS	
Marr Brothers, Inc.	423 E. Jefferson	75203
	FORT WORTH	
Woodson Sales Corp.	1702 N. Sylvania	76111
	HOUSTON	
Bullard Supply Co.	2409 Commerce St.	77003
	SAN ANTONIO	
Engine House Inc.	8610 Botts Lane P.O. Box 17867	78217
UTAH	SALT LAKE CITY	
A-1 Engine & Mower Co.	439 E. 900 So.	84111
VIRGINIA	ASHLAND	
RBI Corp.	101 Cedar Run Dr.	23005
WASHINGTON	SEATTLE	
Bailey's Inc.	1414 14th Ave.	98122
WISCONSIN	APPLETON	
Automotive Supply Co.	123 S. Linwood Ave. P.O. Box 798	54911
	CHILTON	
Horst. Dist.	444 N. Madison	53014

WARRANTY PARTS AND SERVICE POLICY

(0483)

The purpose of warranty is to protect the customer from defects in workmanship and materials, defects which are NOT detected at the time of manufacture. It does not provide for the unlimited and unrestricted replacement of parts. Use and maintenance are the responsibility of the customer. The manufacturer cannot assume responsibility for conditions over which it has no control. Simply put, if it's the manufacturer's fault, it's the manufacturer's responsibility; if it's the customer's fault, it's the customer's responsibility.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY INCLUDES:

1. Replacement of Missing Parts on new equipment.
2. Replacement of Defective Parts within the warranty period.
3. Repair of Defects within the warranty period.

All claims MUST be substantiated with the following information:

1. Model Number of unit involved.
2. Date unit was purchased or first put into service.
3. Date of failure.
4. Nature of failure.